upto 50 frequencies/week in a phased manner till winter 2006-07. Hyderabad, Goa and Kochi have been granted as new points of call for the designated airlines of Germany with reciprocal rights to Indian carriers to have three additional points in Germany, to be specified later on.

Also, as per the new arrangement both sides could now designate more than one airlines to operate agreed schedule services and both sides agreed for third party code-sharing operations.

At present, Delta Airlines is operating 14 services/week and North West Airlines 7 services/week from USA, British Airways 19 services/ week and Virgin Atlantic 10 services/week from UK, Air France 14 services/week from France and Lufthansa German Airlines 32 services/ week from Germany to India.

So far as Indian carriers are concerned, Air India is operating 28,21, 7 and 11 services/week to USA, UK, France and Germany respectively. Also Jet Airways is operating 7 services/week to UK.

International Airports

2835. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of international airports in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether there is a long and persistent demand for upgradation of the Bajpe (Mangalore) Airport in Karnataka into an international airport considering the significant passenger traffic and export and import trade from the Bajpe Airport; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard and Centre's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVILAVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) There are 14 international airports in the country. State-wise details are:- one each in Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Delhi, Goa, Gujarat, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Punjab, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal and two each in Maharashtra and Kerala.

(b) and (c) There have been requests for upgradation of Mangalore Airport to an international airport. In absence of demand from scheduled airline operators and inadequate infrastructure, no decision has been

taken to upgrade Mangatore airport as an international airport. However, work on construction of new runway with associated pavements and facilities for international operations have already been started. State Government has been requested to provide additional land required for construction of new integrated terminal building and taxi-way, fire station and control tower between the two runways.

Facilities to Stranded Passengers at Mumbai Airport

2836. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the losses suffered by Air India and Indian Airlines, due to cancellation and diversion of flights following the closure of Mumbai airport due to heavy rains; and

(b) what facilities were provided by Airlines and Airports Authority of India to the stranded passengers in Mumbai and other major airports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) While Indian Airlines and Alliance Air have suffered a loss of about Rs. 4.09 crores, Air India have not yet assessed the losses.

(b) The facilities provided to stranded passengers in Mumbai and other airports included the following: (i) Restaurant and Snack bar operators were advised to keep additional quantity of eatables and drinks; (ii) Additional seating arrangements were made in lounges, security hold areas and visitors area; (iii) Rules for allotment of retiring rooms were relaxed to accommodate elderly, parsons accompanying small children etc.; (iv) Information regarding flights was continuously disseminated on public address system; (v) Additional staff was deployed to maintain cleanliness in the toilets; (vi) Additional arrangement for drinking water was made; (vii) Round the clock medical aid was provided to needy passenger; (viii) Senior officials of AAI were available on round-the-clock basis to personally monitor and supervise the various facilities and (ix) The portion of Terminal l-B which was under modification was used to accommodate stranded passengers.